REMARKS

The present Preliminary Amendment is submitted to delete the multiple dependencies of claims 5-7, thereby placing such claims in condition for examination and reducing the required PTO filing fee.

Also, the abstract has been amended in order to remove the reference numerals therein. The changes to the abstract are submitted in the form of a substitute abstract. A copy of the abstract with changes marked therein is attached.

Respectfully submitted,

Toshiaki KURACHI et al.

By

Michael S. Huppert Registration No. 40,268 Attorney for Applicants

MSH/kjf Washington, D.C. 20006-1021 Telephone (202) 721-8200 Facsimile (202) 721-8250 August 7, 2006